

I am General Manager of a group of free over the air radio stations that serve the Portland, ME, market. We operate 7 radio stations that take their commitment to news and community services seriously.

I write to you today concerning the NAB petition regarding SDARS from providing locally oriented services on nationally distributed channels.

We support the NAB petition for these reasons:

- The FCC relied on the expressed promises by XM and Sirius that their service would be national only.
- XM and Sirius have clearly broken their promise by introducing localized weather and traffic services.
- We are appalled that a nationwide service utilizing a single location is attempting to provide local content without a local responsibility.

What is the harm that comes from satellite companies providing local traffic and weather? In the short term, it is hard to predict. However, long term, the concept of local broadcasting is diminished.

Without a local presence or local employees, what is the interest of satellite companies in the local community? Just making a buck. This cannot serve the interest of a local community, nor serve the interest of true free over the air broadcasters.

The FCC approved satellite radio as a national service - it should continue as a national service.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very Truly Yours,
Cary L. Pahigian
General Manager
WPOR, WMGX, WYNZ, WGAN, WZAN, WBAE, WVAE